

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-33 are in this case. Claims 1-11, 13-15, 17-18 and 20-32 have been withdrawn. Claims 12, 16 and 19 have been rejected. Claim 33 has been objected to as being dependent off a rejected claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form.

35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph Rejections

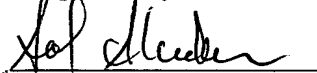
The Examiner has rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirements.

While the Examiner's rejection is traversed, Applicant, in the interest of expediting the allowance of the application, has amended claim 16 to include the recitation of now canceled claim 33, wherein N equals 2 or 3., which the Examiner states that the specification is enabling. The claim is now directed to a method of extending a nascent oligonucleotide-3'-OH in a template dependent manner, comprising the step of contacting the nascent oligonucleotide with a nucleic acid template, a template dependent polymerase and 4^N oligonucleotide triphosphates each including N monomers, wherein N is an integer of 2 or 3.

The remaining withdrawn and rejected claims have been canceled in order to allow this application to promptly issue. Applicant reserves the right to file continuing applications directed to the canceled non-elected and rejected claims

It is respectfully submitted that claim 16 is now in condition for allowance. Prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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